

REMARKS

In the Office action mailed December 18, 2003, the title was objected to, claims 1-18, 23-32, 51-58, 65-86 and 96-102 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) based on Starnes et al., U.S. Pat. No. 6,578,073 ("Starnes"), and claims 19-22, 33-50, 59-64 and 87-95 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) based on Starnes in view of Mighdoll et al., U.S. Pat. No. 5,918,013 ("Mighdoll"). Applicants have amended the title. Applicants traverse the rejections of the claims, but nevertheless cancel claims 14, 22, 28, 47, 52, 56, 62, 66, 71, 84, 85, 94, and 95 without prejudice, amend the remaining claims as shown above, and submit the following remarks in support of patentability.

Statement of Related Patent Applications

Applicants initially inform the examiner that the present application is related to co-pending U.S. Patent Applications 09/680,997 and 09/680,998, and have amended the patent application to include a Cross-Reference to Related Patent Applications.

Claims 1, 2-13, 15-21, 23-27, and 29-32

Applicant has amended claim 1 to recite that "the size-optimized web resource is generated in real time, by removing at least a portion of the non-renderable data from the web resource after it is received by the networking device and before the web resource is sent to the remote client." Claim 1 has further been amended to recite that the original, unmodified web resource is transferred to the remote client "without requiring the user to input a command to send a second request for the original web resource."

In contrast, as shown in Fig. 5B below from Starnes, the method of Starnes is

generally configured to either send a compressed image file at 558, 572, or an uncompressed image file at 568, but not both.

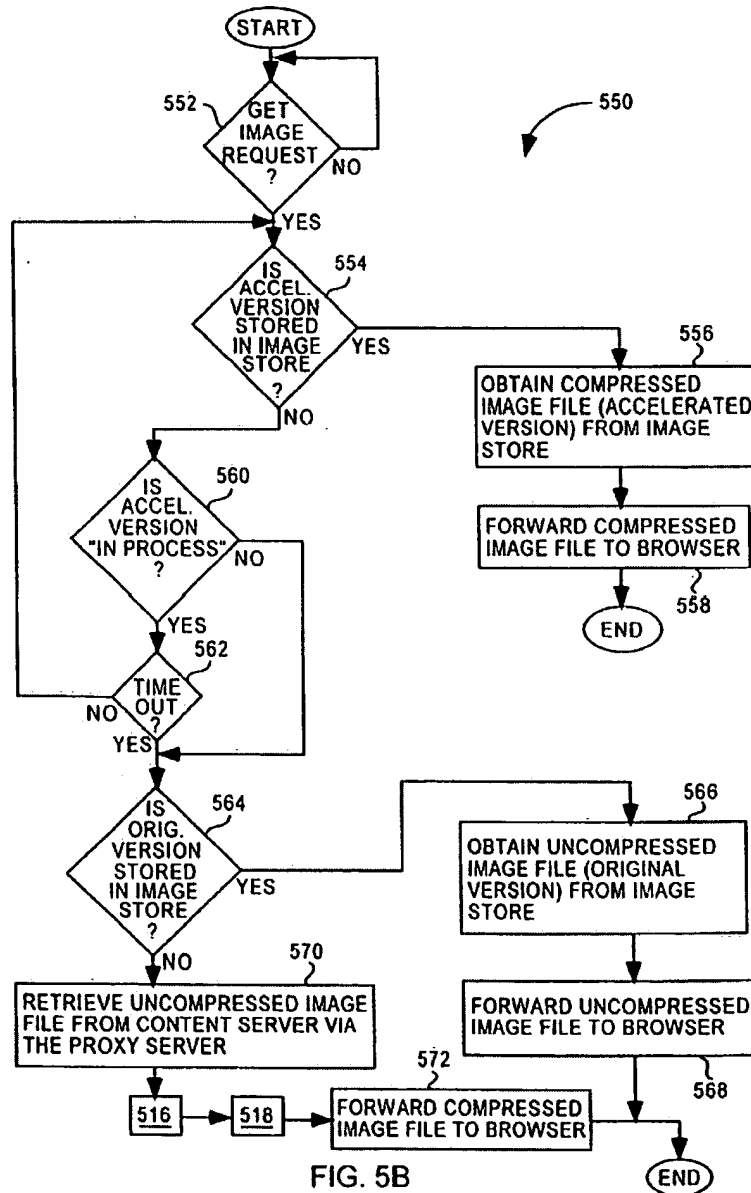


FIG. 5B

Starnes - Fig. 5B

Further, where a compressed image is sent to the client, Starnes teaches that the user must click on a link to view an uncompressed images, as described at Col. 18, Lines 49-53 and as shown in Fig. 7, reproduced below.

As illustrated in FIG. 7, the displayed content is accelerated
50 according to the command bar 702. Upon a user's selection
of the Mode button, the content would be redisplayed in an
unaccelerated manner (after requesting and receiving the
unaccelerated version of the content). The command bar 702

Starnes - Col. 18, Lines 49-53

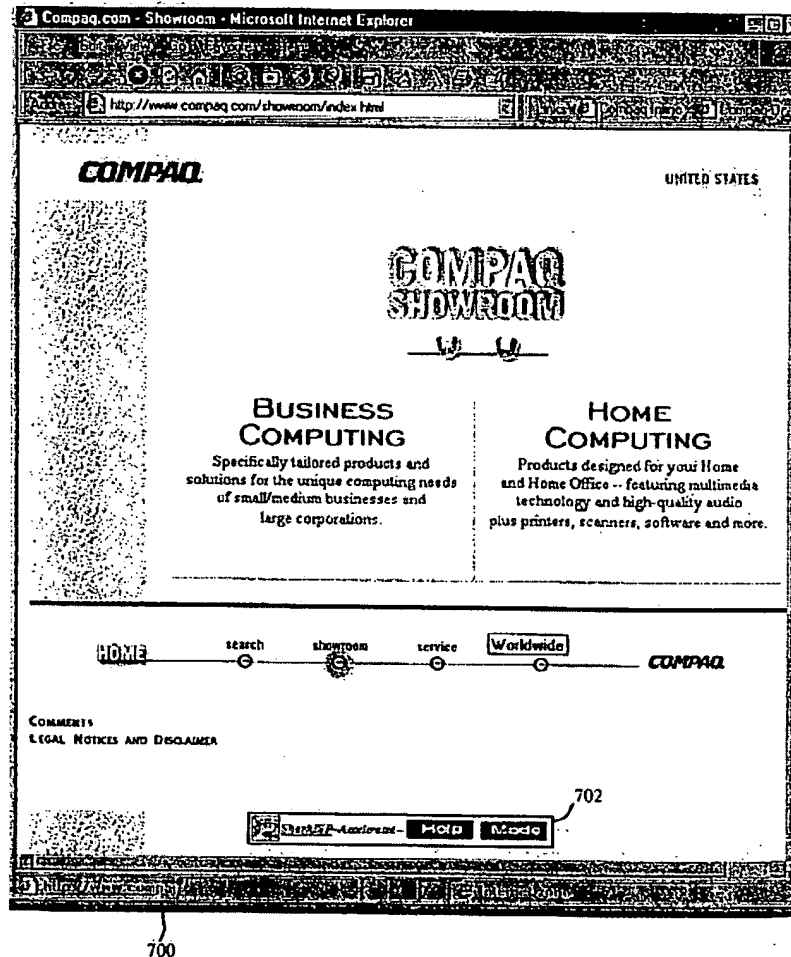


FIG. 7

Starnes - Fig. 7

Nowhere does Starnes, or any of the other references of record in the present application, disclose sending both a smaller version of a web resource, as well as sending a

full, unmodified version of the web resource from a networking device without requiring any additional user command to retrieve the original version. The networking method of claim 1 has the potential advantage that it does not force users to change browsing habits, whereas the method of Starnes forces users to input a second request after receiving a compressed image to request an original image. This additional step may be perceived by many users as inconvenient, or even annoying. This inconvenience is avoided by the method of claim 1. Further, according to the method of claim 1, the networking device sends a full version of the requested web resource to the user, so that the user is always ensured of receiving the original web resource.

In one exemplary scenario, a user may surf through several web pages served from one or more servers that are linked to a networking device as described in the present application. While viewing pages accelerated by the method of claim 1, the user enjoys faster response times, because smaller modified web resources are sent to the remote device. However, since unmodified versions are also sent to the remote client, the user also benefits from knowing that the full version of each document is automatically being sent to his browser. If the user surfs rapidly, the full version may not have sufficient time to download, however, if user stops to browse a particular web resource, sufficient time may be provided for the full version to completely download to the client. Thus, the method of claim 1 provides the advantage of improved speed, without loss in the integrity of the original data, which is eventually delivered in unmodified form without requiring additional input from the user.

This helpful combination of features is not disclosed or suggested by Starnes,

nor any other reference of record in the application. Therefore, applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 1, as well as dependent claims 2-13, 15-21, 23-27, and 29-32 are allowable.

Claims 33, 34-46, 48

Applicants have amended claim 33 to recite “sending an original, unfiltered version of the requested web resource to the remote client, without requiring the user to input a command to send a second request for the original web resource.” Claim 33 has further been amended to recite that “the modified web resource is generated in real time at the networking device, and is not retrieved from a cache.”

As stated above with respect to claim 1, applicants submit that Starnes does not disclose sending an original web resource after sending a smaller version of the web resource, without requiring the user to input a command to send a second request for the original image.

Mighdoll also fails to teach sending the original version of the requested web resource. As shown in Fig. 6 below, Mighdoll appears to disclose transcoding a document and downloading the transcoded document to a client, at steps 607, 608, 613. However, no mechanism is provided for subsequently downloading the original document to the client.

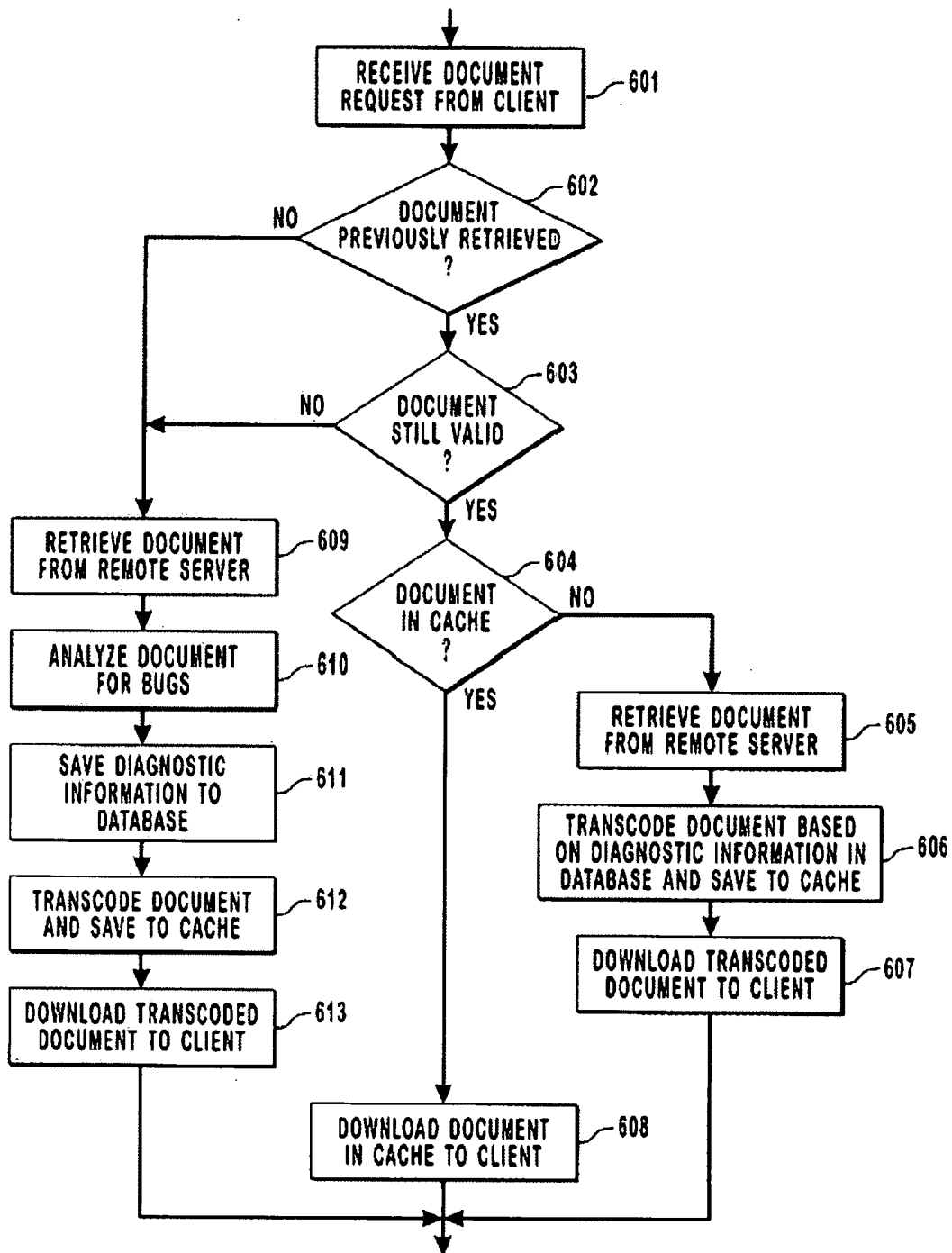


FIG. 6

Mighdoll – Fig. 6

For cases where the document includes an image that has previously been retrieved and is stored in a cache, Mighdoll appears to disclose, in Fig. 7 reproduced below, downloading the document with blank areas in place of the image, and then retrieving the stored version of the image from the cache and downloading the image to the client.

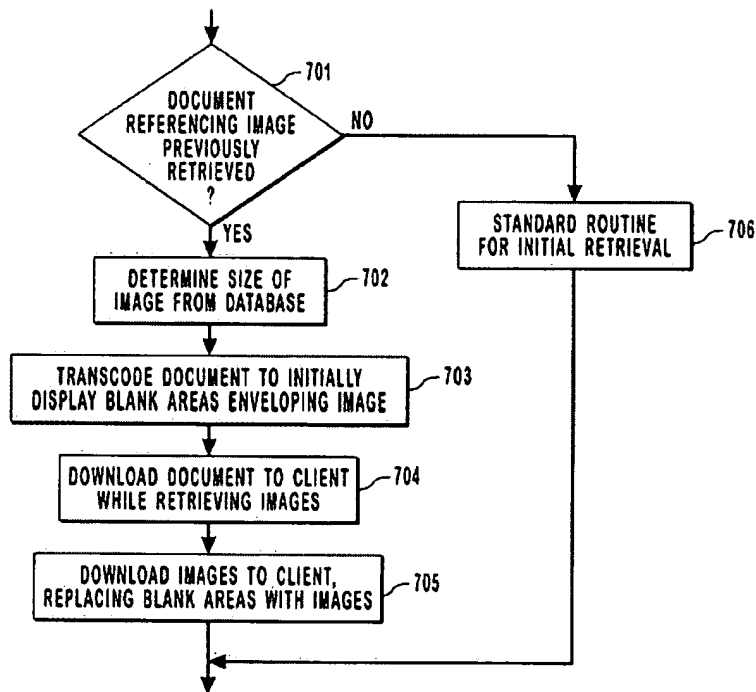


FIG. 7

Mighdoll - Fig. 7

In contrast to Mighdoll, amended Claim 33 recites that non-renderable data is filtered from the web resource. Mighdoll does not disclose or suggest that the image data removed by transcoding at step 703 includes non-renderable data. Further, in-line images and the underlying HTML document discussed by Mighdoll are typically separate web resources that are downloaded at different times by a client. Applicants suggest that at step 703 Mighdoll actually teaches adding to the underlying HTML document by inserting a

blank region. In any event, Mighdoll completely fails to disclose both sending a modified web resource with non-renderable data removed, and later sending an original, unmodified version of the web resource to a client.

Further, Mighdoll discloses retrieving the image from a cache, whereas claim 33 specifically recites that the modified web resource is generated in real time at the networking device, and not retrieved from a cache.

For these reasons, applicants respectfully submit that amended 33, as well as each of dependent claims 34-46, and 48, is allowable.

Claims 51, 52-57

Claim 51 has been amended to recite “sending an original, unfiltered version of the requested web resource to the remote client, without requiring the user to input a command to send a second request for the original web resource” and “wherein the modified web resource is generated in real time at the networking device, and is not retrieved from or stored on a cache.”

For the reasons discussed above, applicants submit that these features are not disclosed by Starnes alone, the combination of Starnes and Mighdoll, or any of the other references of record, and therefore believe that amended claim 51, as well as each of dependent claims 52-57 is allowable.

Claim 58, 59-61, 63

Claim 58 has been amended to recite that the networking device be

configured to generate a size-optimized web resource that is “generated in real time, and not retrieved from a cache.” Claim 51 has further been amended to recite that both the size-optimized web resource, as well as at least the portion of the original web resource that was size-optimized, are sent to the remote client in an original, unmodified state, without requiring the user to input a command to send a second request for the original web resource.

For the reasons discussed above, applicants submit that these features are not disclosed by Starnes alone, the combination of Starnes and Mighdoll, or any of the other references of record, and therefore believe that amended claim 58, as well as each of dependent claims 59-61, and 63, is allowable.

Claims 65, 67-70, 72-83, 86-93, 96

Claim 65 has been amended to recite that the acceleration device be configured to “process at least a portion of the original web resource to form a size-optimized web resource having a smaller file size than the original web resource, wherein the size-optimized web resource is generated in real time, and not retrieved from a cache; and send the size-optimized web resource to the remote client; send at least the portion of the original web resource that was size-optimized to the remote client in an original, unmodified state, without requiring the user to input a command to send a second request for the original web resource.”

For the reasons discussed above, applicants submit that these features are not disclosed by Starnes alone, the combination of Starnes and Mighdoll, or any of the other

references of record, and therefore believe that amended claim 65, as well as each of dependent claims 67-70, 72-83, 86-93, 96, is allowable.

Claim 97, 98-102

Claim 97 has been amended to state that the data that is compressed is web page source data in the HTML format. Starnes appears to disclose only compressing images. See, Fig. 5B. Mighdoll appears to disclose only “reducing the resolution” of images for display on a television, and changing the format of images from GIF to JPEG. See, Col. 10, Line 65 – Col. 11, Line 7 and Col. 11, Lines 10-19. Neither reference makes any disclosure or suggestion of compressing an HTML file, in real time, at a networking device positioned intermediate a web server and client on a computer network. Only the inventors of the subject application recognized that even the small differences in file size that may be achieved by compressing text files such as HTML files, would result in appreciable savings in overall transmission times. For these reasons, applicants submit claim 97, as well as each of dependent claims 98-102, is allowable.

The above amendments and remarks are believed to address fully the Examiner's rejections, and place the application in condition for allowance. A prompt indication of the same respectfully is requested. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned if any issues remain that may be resolved by a telephonic interview.

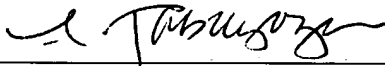
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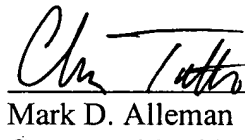


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Respectfully submitted,

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